

Mohegan Tribe Elects New Nine-Member Council

The new Mohegan Tribal Council was sworn into office on October 3, 2005 at the historic Mohegan Church in Uncasville. Later that day, the new Council met and elected Bruce “Two Dogs” Bozsum to serve as Tribal Chairman and Lynn Malerba as Vice Chairwoman of the Council.

The new membership of the Mohegan Tribal Council is as follows (in alphabetical order): Bruce “Two Dogs” Bozsum, Mark Brown, Ralph James Gessner, Jr., Mark Hamilton, Roland Harris, Roberta Harris-Payne, Allison Johnson, Lynn Malerba, and William Quidgeon, Jr.

In addition to Bozsum and Malerba, Tribal officers include Treasurer William Quidgeon, Jr., Recording Secretary Allison Johnson and Corresponding Secretary Roberta Harris-Payne.

Among its many responsibilities, the Tribal Council serves as the board of directors of the Mohegan Tribal Gaming Authority which includes the Tribe’s Mohegan Sun Casino. In addition to the Mohegan Sun, the Tribal Gaming Authority purchased Pocono Downs in Pennsylvania for future gaming activities. The Gaming Authority is also working with other Tribes to develop gaming and resort operations in other regions of the country.



Mohegan Tribal Council

Front row (left to right):
William Quidgeon, Jr.: Treasurer
Roberta Harris-Payne Corresponding Secretary
Marilynn “Lynn” Malerba: Vice Chairwoman
Roland J. Harris: Councilor
Back row (left to right):
“Matahga” Mark F. Brown: Councilor
Mark W. Hamilton: Councilor
Bruce “Two Dogs” Bozsum: Chairman
Allison D. Johnson: Recording Secretary
Ralph James Gessner, Jr.: Councilor



Mohegan Tribal Elders

Front row (left to right):
Mary Rubino: Elder and Justice
John Henry Clark: Chairman and Chief Justice
Marie Pineault: Elder and Justice
Back row (left to right):
Austin Fish, Jr.: Treasurer and Justice
William “Dancing Shadow” Andrews: Elder and Justice
Joseph “Wolf Who Walks Alone” Gray: Vice Chairman and Justice
Robert (Bob) Francis Soper: Secretary and Justice

The Mohegan Way: Published by the Mohegan Tribal Council. For further information contact: mweditor@moheganmail.com

FALL 2005



The Mohegan Way

FALL 2005



Gladys Tantaquidgeon, Mohegan Tribe’s Matriarch and Spiritual Leader Passes Away at the Age of 106

Revered member of the Mohegan Tribe responsible for the preservation and renewal of Mohegan Tribal language and customs.

Mohegan Medicine Woman Gladys Iola Tantaquidgeon passed away peacefully at her home on Mohegan Hill on November 1st. She was 106 years old at the time of her passing — the oldest living member of the Mohegan Tribe. Born on June 15, 1899 to John and Harriet Fielding Tantaquidgeon (both Mohegan Indians), she was the third of the family’s seven children.

Educated in tribal spirituality and herbalism by her “tribal grandmothers” Lydia Fielding, Mercy Ann Nonesuch Mathews and Emma Baker, Gladys briefly attended grammar school before entering the University of Pennsylvania in 1919, where she studied with Anthropologist Frank Speck and wrote in the field of anthropology. She expanded her Mohegan pharmacopeia by researching herbal medicine among

related east coast tribes, including the Delaware, Nanticoke, Cayuga and Wampanoag.

In 1931 she co-founded Tantaquidgeon Indian Museum along with her brother Harold and father John. It is the oldest Indian owned and operated museum in America. She shared her brother’s philosophy that education was the best cure for prejudice. “You can’t hate someone that you know a lot about.”

In 1934, she was recruited by the Commissioner of Indian Affairs, John Collier, to serve as a community worker on the Yankton Sioux reservation in South Dakota, and from 1938–1947 she worked to promote Indian art as a specialist for the newly-formed Federal Indian Arts and Crafts Board in the Dakotas, Montana and Wyoming.

continued on page 2

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 344
NEW HAVEN, CT

Mohegan Tribe
5 Crow Hill Road
Uncasville, CT 06382



Letter from the Chairman

Dear Friends,

As the newly elected chairman of the Mohegan Tribal Council, I want to convey my tremendous appreciation to our neighbors and the people of Connecticut for the strong and positive relationship that exists today with the Mohegan Tribe.



Over the years, we have shown that by working together we can achieve great things. Today, thanks in part to the historic compact between the Mohegan Tribe and the state of Connecticut, our Tribe has become a powerful engine of economic growth and opportunity, helping to create thousands of jobs and build a stronger economic future for our region.

“The Mohegan Way” newsletter is part of our ongoing effort to ensure that we maintain open lines of communication, not only with our neighbors but with all who share our belief that we have a fundamental responsibility to create a better future for our citizens and especially our children.

We hope you enjoy reading this edition of “The Mohegan Way”.

If you have any suggestions about issues that you think should be highlighted in upcoming editions of the newsletter, please contact me or any member of the Mohegan Tribal Council.

Sincerely,



Chairman Bruce “Two Dogs” Bozsum
on behalf of the entire Mohegan Tribal Council



2005 Ford Escape,
all wheel drive SUV Hybrid

Mohegan Sun Recognized by EPA for Energy-efficiency Efforts

The Mohegan Sun Casino was one of only three organizations in Connecticut to be recognized by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) for projects that not only help reduce emissions of carbon dioxide, but are also energy

efficient. Mohegan Sun uses a fuel-cell based heat and power system that uses natural gas and provides up to 400 kilowatts of electricity to the entertainment complex. In addition, the Mohegan Reservation also features a variety of other innovative, “clean” technologies including: hotel energy demand reduction, materials recycling and reuse, alternate vehicle fuel use, vehicle emission control through retrofitting and many other technologies.

Gladys Tantaquidgeon, Mohegan Tribe’s Matriarch . . .

continued from page 1

During the 1940’s, Gladys worked as the librarian at the Niantic Women’s prison,



where she felt that her previous work with reservation families had sensitized her to the needs of women in difficult situations.

Tantaquidgeon wrote numerous articles and a book entitled “*Folk Medicine of the Delaware and Related Algonkian Indians*”. Among her many awards were honorary doctorates from the University of Connecticut and Yale University. Her other honors include the Connecticut Education Association’s Friend of Education Award, The Connecticut Women’s Hall of Fame, the National Organization for Women’s Harriet Tubman Award, and numerous Native American honors.

In the 1990’s, Gladys’ extraordinary personal records of correspondence regarding Mohegan births, graduations, marriages and deaths were critical to proving the Mohegan case for Federal Recognition in 1994. On March 7th of this year, on the eleventh anniversary of that recognition, she was asked if she had any messages to share with her people, to which she responded, “We all have to stand in love for the tribe.”



Gladys as a child



Long before the creation of the United States of America, the European settlers recognized the sovereignty of the Mohegan Tribe. As part of the historic Treaty of Hartford in 1638, the Massachusetts Bay Colony fully recognized its relationship with the sovereign Mohegan Nation.

As a sovereign, federally-recognized Indian Nation, the Mohegan Tribe has its own constitution and government. The Mohegan Constitution defines the scope, structure and procedures for governance of the Mohegan Tribal Nation. This Constitution also outlines the rights and responsibilities of our members and governing bodies.

The Mohegan Nation’s Tribal Constitution provides that the Tribe shall be governed by a Tribal Council, consisting of nine Tribal members, and a Council of Elders, consisting of seven Tribal members over the age of 55. All legislative and executive powers of the Tribe not granted to the Council of Elders are vested with the Tribal Council.

The Council of Elders oversees judicial matters and the Tribe’s cultural integrity. The Council of Elders also exercises

The Mohegan Tribe, the United States and the State of Connecticut: *Success through Cooperation and Partnership*

legislative powers with respect to Tribal membership and enrollment. The Tribal Court adjudicates on all non-gaming matters.

As with virtually all governments, the Mohegan Tribal Government is made up of a number of administrative departments that oversee the everyday function of the reservation and provide for Tribal members.

Members of the Mohegan Tribe are also citizens of the United States and the state in which they reside. Members of the Mohegan Tribe have proudly fulfilled their duties as U.S. citizens since the country’s inception. Members of the Mohegan Tribe served as scouts for General Washington’s Army during the American Revolution and have fought with honor for the United States in every war since then.

With the passage of the Native American Indian Gaming Act (IGRA) in 1988, the Mohegan Tribe successfully negotiated a compact with the state of Connecticut that led to the development of the Mohegan Sun Casino.

As a result of that compact, the Mohegan Tribe and has become a major engine of economic activity and growth in Connecticut. The Mohegan Sun now ranks as the fifth-largest employer in Connecticut, with more than 10,000 employees, of which 90 percent are Connecticut residents. The Mohegan Sun generates more than \$298

million in direct payroll to Connecticut households, with employees residing in 110 of Connecticut’s 169 towns.

In addition to those who have found good employment at Mohegan, the Tribe’s activities have created approximately 24,000 additional jobs in the state as a direct result of the economic activity of the Mohegan Tribe.

Today, the Tribes are now the largest source of funds for the state and its taxpayers, other than transfers from the federal government. Since the compact’s inception, the state has received more than \$3.8 billion. This year, the Tribes will provide the state with more than \$430 million, funds that are helping to support vital services across the state and in every one of Connecticut’s communities.



For more information about the Mohegan Tribe please see our web site at . . .
<http://www.mohegan.nsn.us/>

Legislature Approves \$1.6 Million Increase in Impact Funding for Host Communities

During the last Legislative Session, Mohegan Tribal leaders joined community leaders and state legislators from Southeastern Connecticut in support of legislation to update and enhance the formula used to allocate resources from the Mohegan-Pequot Fund.

The legislature then approved an additional \$1.6 million to help towns near the casinos. These funds will be used to pay for a variety of vital municipal services in the five

communities of Norwich, Ledyard, Preston, North Stonington and Montville. This money is in addition to the extra \$750,000 each of the communities already receive annually.

The Mohegan-Pequot Fund was created through the compacts between the state of Connecticut and the two Tribal nations. Since the compact’s inception, the state has received over \$3.8 billion dollars. For this coming fiscal year, a total of \$430 million

will go to the state to help fund vital services at the state and municipal level.

Newly elected Tribal Chairman Bruce “Two Dogs” Bozsum reiterated the Tribe’s commitment to working closely with its neighbors. “As a Tribe, we are very dedicated to supporting our neighbors, the local communities and the entire state. By working together we can continue to make Connecticut and our region an even better place to live.”